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X1 REFERENCE:

ATTACHMENT TO L-4878
26 FEBRUARY 1968
PAGE 1PT-76 AMPHIBIOUS TANKS
LANG VEI, SOUTH VIETNAM
1635N 10640E1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS THREE PT-76 AMPHIBIOUS TANKS AND ONE UNIDENTIFIED TANK IN AND AROUND THE OVERRUN LANG VEI IRREGULAR DEFENSE CORPS CAMP. THIS BOARD ALSO DEPICTS THE LAND AND WATER ROUTE PROBABLY FOLLOWED BY THESE VEHICLES FROM LAOS.

2. LOCATION:

LANG VEI IS LOCATED IN NORTHERNMOST SOUTH VIETNAM NEAR THE LAO BORDER AND APPROXIMATELY FIVE NM SOUTHWEST OF KHE SANH.

3. MISSION READOUT:

[REDACTED] REVEALS
THE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (SEE NPIC BRIEFING BOARD L-4791) ROAD UNDER CONSTRUCTION FROM ROUTE 92 AT 162952N 1062931E (UTM XD591244) TO BE SERVICEABLE BEYOND THE PREVIOUS TERMINUS AT UTM XD721244 TO THE LAOS/SOUTH VIETNAM BORDER ON THE WEST BANK OF THE SE PONE (RIVER) AT 162922N 1063948E (UTM XD775236). NO EVIDENCE OF A RIVER CROSSING AT THIS POINT WAS NOTED.

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HOWEVER, TRACK ACTIVITY AT THIS POINT INDICATES THAT VEHICLES USED THE RIVER NORTH FROM THIS POINT TO UTM XD778253 WHERE THEY LEFT THE RIVER AND FOLLOWED THE ALIGNMENT OF AN OLD TRAIL FROM WHENCE THEY REENTERED THE RIVER AT UTM XD778308. THE VEHICLES THEN MOVED BEYOND UTM XD779324, WHERE ONE PT-76 IS OBSERVED IN THE RIVER (SEE INSET, [REDACTED] 25X1 WHICH PROVIDES ADDITIONAL, LARGER SCALE PHOTO COVERAGE), AND ON TO THE NORTH BANK OF THE RIVER AT 163458N 1064012E (UTM XD781340). THIS LATTER POINT IS CONNECTED WITH THE LANG VEI CAMP BY A PREVIOUSLY EXISTING, HEAVILY USED SERVICE ROAD ONE NM LONG. OBSERVED ON THIS SERVICE ROAD AT UTM XD785353 IS ONE DAMAGED/DESTROYED PT-76 TANK AND ONE PROBABLY DISABLED, UNIDENTIFIED TANK (THE CHASSIS APPEARS TO HAVE A DIFFERENT CONFIGURATION FROM THAT OF A PT-76 BUT THE POOR QUALITY OF THE PHOTOGRAPHY PRECLUDES A DEFINITE IDENTIFICATION). ONE DAMAGED/DESTROYED PT-76 IS OBSERVED WITHIN THE CAMP COMPOUND.

4. REMARKS:

THE LANG VEI IRREGULAR DEFENSE CORPS CAMP WAS OVERRUN ON 7 FEBRUARY 1968 IN A NORTH VIETNAMESE ASSAULT WHICH EMPLOYED SEVERAL SOVIET MODEL TANKS. THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME IN THE WAR THAT COMMUNIST FORCES IN SOUTH VIETNAM HAD USED TANKS.

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REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

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SINCE THE COLLAPSE OF THIS CAMP, THE U.S. MARINE STRONGPOINT AT KHE SANH HAS BEEN THE SCENE FOR A BUILD-UP OF ALLIED AND ENEMY FORCES.

[REDACTED]
MAP REFERENCES: AMS SERIES L7014, SHEET 6342 III, 3rd EDITION
AMS SERIES L7015, SHEET 6341 IV, 1st EDITION

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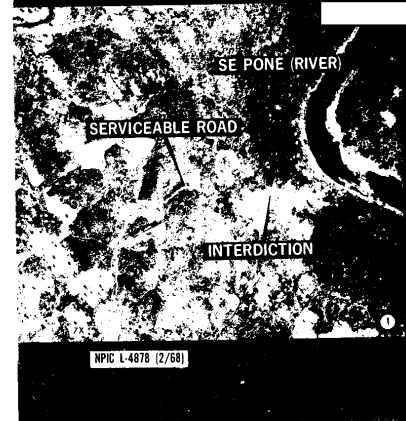
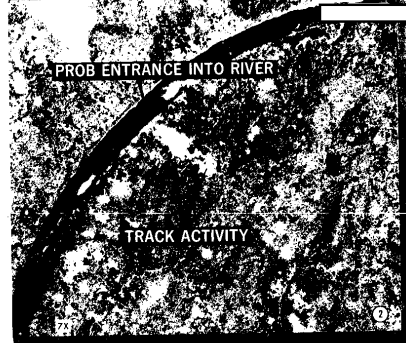
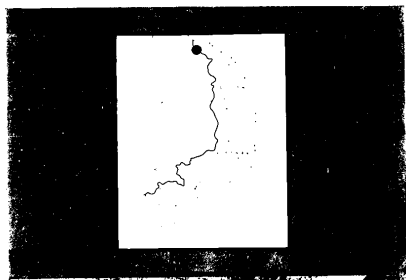
GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and declassification

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PT-76 AMPHIBIOUS TANKS
LANG VEI, SOUTH VIETNAM
16-35N 106-40E

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NPIC 1-4878 (2/68)

